Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 10, 17, 41, and 51-53 as follows. The claims and their status are shown below. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a therapeutic agent for solid tumor ~~cancer~~, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a ~~compound~~ test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is ~~as~~ a therapeutic agent for solid tumor ~~cancer~~.

2-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for an apoptosis-inducing agent for solid tumor, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a ~~compound~~ test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is ~~as~~ an apoptosis-inducing agent for solid tumor.

11-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for an anticancer agent potentiator for solid tumor, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a ~~compound~~ test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein a test substance that inhibits the phosphorylation activity of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide is ~~as~~ an anticancer agent potentiator for solid tumor.

18-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for substances that ~~enhance or~~ inhibit the activity of a purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) contacting a test substance with the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide or a partial peptide thereof, or a salt thereof;

(b) detecting the phosphorylation activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide; and

(c) identifying a substance that ~~enhances or~~ inhibits the activity of the purified serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 polypeptide.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

43. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected by using, as an indicator, a change in the expression level of a reporter gene that is activated in response to binding of a serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the phosphorylation activity is detected using an antibody that recognizes the phosphorylated form of the serine/threonine kinase Pim-1 phosphorylation substrate.

51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, 45, or 46, wherein said therapeutic agent for solid tumor ~~cancer~~ is a therapeutic agent for pancreatic cancer.

52. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, 47, or 48, wherein said apoptosis-inducing agent for solid tumor is an apoptosis-inducing agent for pancreatic cancer.

53. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, 49, or 50, wherein said anticancer agent potentiator for solid tumor is an anticancer agent potentiator for pancreatic cancer.